



COUNTY WORKS WITH MOBILE HOME PARK TO IMPROVE SAFETY

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Montgomery County, Virginia – Montgomery County officials and the owner of Oak Forest Mobile Home Park in Merrimac recently created street names and physical addresses for 199 residences to aid public safety officials in locating homes during an emergency.



Officials from the County's Planning and Geographic Information Services (GIS) Department, Building Inspections, Sheriff's Office and Emergency Services worked on the project with James Radford, owner of the mobile home park. The County also worked closely with the Blacksburg Post Office, County Dispatch, Verizon, AEP and Comcast Cable to ensure a seamless transition for residents involved with the address changes.

"Montgomery County appreciates the efforts of Mr. Radford in working with us to make this mobile home community a safer place for the residents," said Planning Director Steven Sandy.

Sheriff J.T. Whitt noted that sheriff's deputies are often the first to arrive on the scene when Fire or Rescue is dispatched in the County. "This improvement will further enhance our ability to serve the citizens of the County as well as assisting Fire and Rescue during all emergency responses," Sheriff Whitt said. "I encourage all citizens to ensure their residence is properly marked and clearly visible."

All County residents are reminded to mark their homes with visible, reflective numbers at least 4 inches high that can be seen from the street. In addition, keep your numbers clean, trim back vegetation as needed and don't let piles of snow or mud obscure the numbers.

"The renumbering of Oak Forest Mobile Home Park and similar communities will greatly improve the speed of service to people in their greatest time of need," said Emergency Services Coordinator Neal Turner. "When homes are improperly marked or not marked at all, public safety personnel may experience delays locating the right address. With each home now having a physical 911 address, rescue personnel will be able to immediately identify the location. If you live off the main road or on a shared driveway marking the entrance to your home could save your life or property in an emergency."

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